




# QUBES

The Power of **Biology** × **Math** × **Community**

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## Community Spotlight:

### NIMBioS Enters a New Phase

**The National Institute  
for Mathematical and  
Biological Synthesis**



The original vision for NIMBioS was to address cutting-edge, fundamental biological questions by facilitating the assembly and productive collaboration of interdisciplinary teams.

In 2021, NIMBioS is transitioning from an NSF-funded synthesis center to a community support and service-oriented center still focused on research activities.

"I envision NIMBioS to be a place where researchers and educators at every level in quantitative life sciences can come and ask for what they need, whether NIMBioS provides it or helps them get it. We want our community to use NIMBioS very much as that community support center, now that it has served for so long as a community building center."

--Nina Fefferman,  
Executive Director

[Learn more about  
NIMBioS, their  
accomplishments, and  
where they are headed!](#)

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## QUBES News

### Instructor-Only Access Now Available for QUBES OER

We are excited to announce a new feature of the QUBES publishing platform - the option to mark materials as "Instructors Only" on a file by file basis!

This feature allows resource authors to designate files as instructors only during the publishing process. To access the instructor materials, a user must join the Instructors group, monitored by QUBES staff. Once a user is designated as an instructor they will automatically have access to all instructor resources.

Some suggested action items:

- [Review the Instructor Access Knowledge Base article](#) to learn how to use this feature.
- [Join the Instructors Group on QUBES](#) and encourage your community members to do the same.
- Have questions or want to learn more? [Submit a support ticket](#) and staff will get back to you.

## VCU Environmental Studies: An Exemplary Use of QUBES in the Classroom

[James Vonesh](#) at the Environmental Studies Center at Virginia Commonwealth University had his graduate students critique and develop educational modules as a part of their Research Methods course--a great and rigorous use of QUBES.

James incorporated QUBES open educational resources throughout the course. Students:

- reviewed existing QUBES lessons, including reading related materials and doing the analyses.
- discussed what makes a great QUBES lesson and developed an assessment rubric.
- found research and data around which they could build their own lesson plans.
- pitched their lesson plans to the class and incorporated feedback (also providing feedback to others).
- submitted first drafts for class- and instructor- critique using the assessment rubric.
- revised their modules.
- uploaded a final open educational resource to QUBES.

The project asked students to think critically, work with data, develop lessons, practice peer review and revision, and to see a data-focused project through to completion. And they ended up with a real deliverable they could put on their CV!

[Check out the final products here.](#)

## Update to BIOME Keynote Speaker Lineup



We're so excited to announce that Rose Hendricks will be giving the science communications keynote at [the BIOME Institute](#).

**Rose Hendricks, Ph.D.**

Monday, July 26

12:00 pm PT / 3:00 pm ET

Rose Hendricks, Ph.D., is a social scientist who works to connect science and society. She currently leads the Society Civic Science Initiative, a network of scientific societies working to support scientists who engage with policymakers and public audiences, and is the Interim Senior Advisor to the LISTEN Network (Leaders of Science & Technology Engagement Networks). She has conducted research on effective science communication in both academic and nonprofit contexts and has recently served on the core team for the Science Communication Trainers Network.

[Learn more about our keynotes here](#), and see you soon!

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## Academic Data Science Alliance to Host Webinar about QUBES, June 17

Join QUBES PIs Sam Donovan and Carrie Diaz Eaton at a webinar about QUBES, hosted by ADSA!

Jun 17, 2021 10:00 AM PT

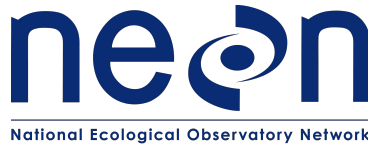
Education/DEI SIGs - QUBES - Quantitative Undergraduate Biology Education and Synthesis

QUBES is a community of individuals and organizations committed to accelerating STEM education reform. Supported by our social-cyberinfrastructure and commitment to teaching quantitative skills, we work to make sure that our teaching is effective, open, accessible, equitable, and inclusive. Join us for a discussion with Carrie Diaz Eaton (Bates College) and Samuel Donovan (University of Pittsburgh) to learn about the community, its impact, and its future.

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

## Partner News and Opportunities

### NEON Seeks Survey Participants



NEON and Arizona State University are collecting information from higher education administrators, faculty,

and staff that informs how large-scale data sets are currently being used in higher education, with emphasis on NEON data and its usage or non-usage. The information gathered will be used to inform outreach efforts and for educational planning purposes. They plan to make a summary of the survey findings publicly available by the end of the year.

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete, and [a link to the survey can be found here](#). This is an anonymous link so no identifying information will be attached to the responses.

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### BioInteractive Introduces New Tool - Data Explorer

BioInteractive is excited to announce its newest web tool, [Data Explorer](#)!

Data Explorer allows users to examine data, generate graphs, and do statistical analyses from their web browsers. Choose a data set from published research by uploading user-generated data.



Along with the web tool, BioInteractive has included several documents for educators with background information, implementation suggestions, and guides to selecting plot types and statistical analysis. [Learn more about the tool.](#)

## QB@CC Participates in NSF's STEM for All



[The Quantitative Biology at Community College \(QB@CC\) project's video](#) was featured in the 2021 STEM for All Video Showcase funded by the

National Science Foundation. The event was held May 11-18, 2021. [You can view all the videos here.](#)

The annual showcase featured over 250 innovative projects aimed at improving Science, Math, Engineering and CS education, which have been funded by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies. During the 8-day event, researchers, practitioners, policy makers and members of the public were invited to view the short videos, discuss them with the presenters online, and vote for their favorites. To date, the videos have been viewed by over 83,000 unique visitors from over 160 countries.

[Learn more about QB@CC in their video](#) and congratulations to the QB@CC team for their participation. Thank you for mentioning the QUBES incubators and Faculty Mentoring Networks!

The STEM for All Video Showcase is hosted by [TERC](#), in partnership with: [STEMTLnet](#), [CADRE](#), [CAISE](#), [CIRCL](#), [STELAR](#), [CS for All Teachers](#), [NARST](#), [NCTM](#), [NSTA](#), [NSF INCLUDES](#), and [QEM](#). The Showcase is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (#1922641).

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## NC State BIT Program Seeks Teaching Postdoc

The North Carolina State Biotechnology Program (BIT) is hiring a teaching postdoctoral scholar with an interest in developing molecular biotechnology course-based research experiences. [The announcement is posted in the Chronicle of Higher Education.](#)

[For further information or to apply, visit the NCSU employment site and search for position number 00102527.](#)

## Partner Events

### BCEENET to Hold Virtual Summer Meeting, June 14-15



June 14-15, 2021

Biological Collections in Ecology and Evolution Network (BCEENET) brings together natural history collections professionals, undergraduate educators, data experts, and researchers to support the development and implementation of Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs) using digitized natural history collections (dNHC) data.

This meeting will include presentations by faculty who are implementing BCEENET CUREs and collaborating natural history collections professionals. Meeting topics will focus on the use of natural history collections in research and teaching, CURE opportunities for new and current participants, and the effectiveness of BCEENET CUREs in reaching diverse student populations. It will also include discussions of best practices for implementation and training workshops targeted at new and advanced implementers.

All are welcome, and registration is FREE! Sessions will take place live on Zoom, and recordings will be available throughout summer 2021. [Find more information and register.](#)



## SPNHC, iDigBio, BLUE to Hold Natural History Education Demo Camp, June 28-29



Save the Date for the 2021 Natural History Education Demo Camp!

Calling all Educators Looking for Resources (formal and informal, K-12, College)

Do you want to discover new ways to connect your students to nature and still meet learning objectives? Do you want to share some great resources you have developed? The Demo Camp is designed to provide materials and resources to teachers, educators, and faculty looking for easy to adopt educational materials that engage students with the natural world.

Save the dates: 28-29 June 2021

Platform: Zoom

Cost: Free to all participants and presenters

[Registration is open for the Demo Camp.](#) For those wishing to share resources, abstract submission is open, and you are encouraged to present!

## Inclusive Teaching Practices in STEM Education Webinar, August 11

[SCORE-UBE](#), [EDSIN](#), [B\(ui\)LDS](#), [BLUE](#), [iDigBio](#), [QUBES](#), and the [BioQUEST Curriculum Consortium](#) are organizing a new webinar series titled "[Inclusive Teaching Practices in STEM Education](#)."

The next webinar, [Fixed vs Growth Mindset and Why the Biggest Challenge May be Faculty](#), will be August 11, at 3:00pm ET with Dr. Brett Woods, the Interim Dean of the Wanek School of Natural Sciences at High Point University.

[Learn more and register for the webinar.](#)

The purpose of this series is to initiate discussion on topics related to inclusive teaching practices while building community among a diversity of STEM disciplines interested in creating a more inclusive learning environment for undergraduate students.

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## 7th Life Discovery – Doing Science Education Conference Opens Registration, Travel Awards



7th Life Discovery – Doing  
Science Education  
Conference

Pushing Past Barriers:  
Ecological Science for All

September 30 – October 2, 2021 Estes Park, CO

[Early Bird Registration is Now Open!](#)

### Accepting Applications for Travel to the Conference!

To increase the diversity of participants and institutions, funds up to \$1,000 are available to support educator travel and conference registration! [Learn more about this year's Travel Awards here!](#)

This conference is jointly organized by the Ecological Society of America, the Society for the Study of Evolution, and the Botanical Society of America.

## Other Opportunities

### For Ecology PhDs: Cornell Seeks Feedback on Assessment

A research team at Cornell is developing the [Biology Lab Inventory of Critical Thinking for Ecology \(Eco-BLIC\)](#) – an assessment to measure students' critical thinking and reasoning about ecology field and lab data.

They are wondering if anyone with an ecology background and PhD could help with the next step in their assessment development process by answering the Eco-BLIC to the best of your abilities using your expertise in the discipline. Your answers will help the team learn how the questions are functioning, how to design the scoring scheme, and where future adjustments need to be made; this process should take approximately 30 minutes of your time. [Find the survey here.](#)

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### Subscribe to NSF EHR's Division of Undergraduate Education Digest

You can subscribe to get a digest of news from NSF's Directorate for Education and Human Resources - Division of Undergraduate Education! [DU\(E News\)](#) comes out every couple of weeks.

## ASA Section on Teaching Stats in the Health Sciences Offers Summer Webinar, June 11

The ASA Section on Teaching of Statistics in the Health Sciences (TSHS) is excited to present their Summer 2021 webinar. Their speaker will be Dr. Michael D. Swartz of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, presenting ideas for building rubrics and flipping classrooms.

Friday, June 11, 2021, 2:00 pm EST

The webinar, "[Rubrics and flipped classrooms: What are they and how do they work in biostatistics classes?](#)" is FREE and open to all.

[To learn more and register, please visit the registration page.](#)

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## Inclusive STEM Teaching Project Hosts MOOC, June 15-July 27

The Inclusive STEM Teaching Project, a National Science Foundation grant-funded program, is hosting a Massive Open Online



Course (MOOC) from June 15th - July 27th via edX. This six-week course is designed to advance the awareness, self-efficacy, and ability of STEM faculty, postdocs, graduate students, and staff to cultivate inclusive learning environments for all of their students. Participants will engage in deep reflection and discussion around topics of equity and inclusion across a variety of institutional contexts.

[Register for the course here.](#)

In addition, the asynchronous online activities will be extended through synchronous virtual learning communities led by trained facilitators at institutions across the country. This optional course component deepens reflection and learning of the material, and connects course learners to each other in a meaningful way.

[Register for a learning community here.](#)

## **LSE Webinar on Creating Inclusive Environments for LGBTQ+ Individuals, June 18**

The Editorial Board of CBE–Life Sciences Education (LSE) and the American Society for Cell Biology invite you to their upcoming Online with LSE free webinar:

[Fourteen Recommendations to Create a More Inclusive Environment for LGBTQ+ Individuals in Academic Biology](#)

When: Friday, June 18, at 12:00 pm EDT, 11:00 am CDT, 10:00 MDT, 9:00 am PDT

This session of Online with LSE will feature a conversation with senior essay author Sara Brownell, an Associate Professor in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University. During the session, they'll discuss actionable recommendations to help biologists, biology educators, and biology education researchers be more inclusive of individuals with LGBTQ+ identities. [Register for the webinar.](#)

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## **TIDeS Project Seeks Curricular Materials Developers, Deadline July 1**

Do you want to do a better job of reaching students in your introductory science course, especially future teachers? [The TIDeS project](#) (Teaching with Investigation and Design) wants to support you.

TIDeS is currently seeking applications from faculty and instructors who teach undergraduate introductory courses in Earth science, life science, and physical science to join their curricular materials development teams. The primary goal of [the TIDeS project](#) is to engage and support faculty and instructors in developing, testing, and implementing high-quality instructional materials that put investigation and design at the center of their introductory undergraduate science courses.

To achieve that goal, they are seeking a total of 15 instructors who will work together in three teams of five to develop new curricular materials focused on investigation and design that are broadly adaptable across the large community of institutions and faculty in life science, Earth science, and physical science.

[Visit the TIDeS website to learn more about the materials development teams and to apply.](#)

Deadline to apply: July 1, 2021

Questions? [Contact Anne Egger.](#)

Members of the QUBES team are always looking to meet others who have a passion for quantitative biology education. Reach out so we can help you gather your collaborators, move projects forward, and continue to move quantitative biology forward. [Connect with us by submitting a support ticket.](#)

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